

# Discrete and continuum simulations of near-field ground motion from SPE

Oleg Vorobiev, Souheil Ezzedine,  
Eric Herbold, Tarabay Antoun and Lew Glenn

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

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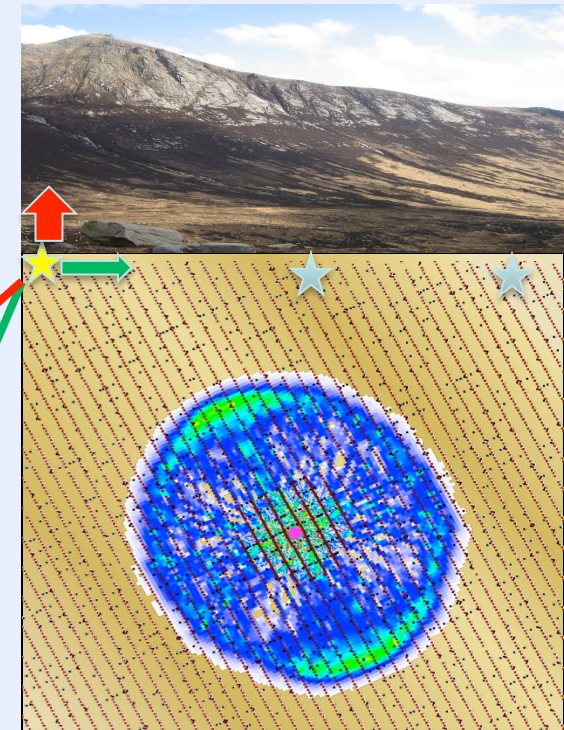
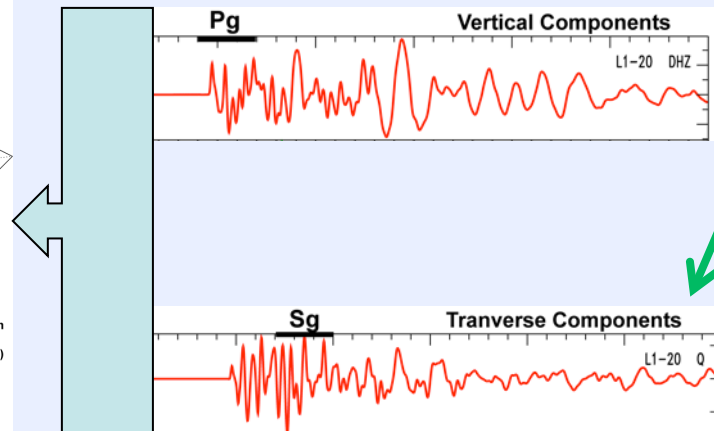
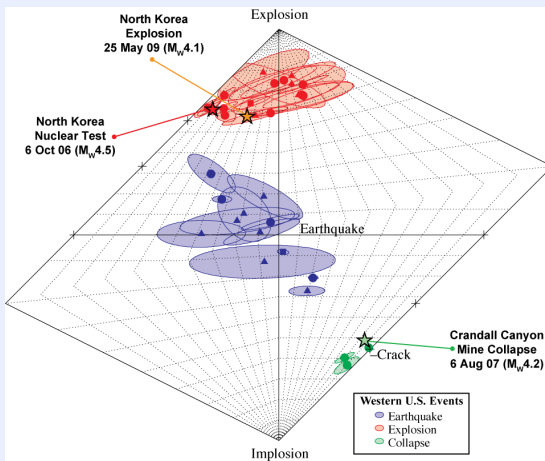
This work was performed under the auspices of the  
U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory under contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.  
Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC



# What can we learn from near field modeling ?



- ***Shear-wave generation, implications for monitoring***
- ***Role of site characterization***
- ***Role of surface and gravity***
- ***Scalability with yield***
- ***Source model for the far field***



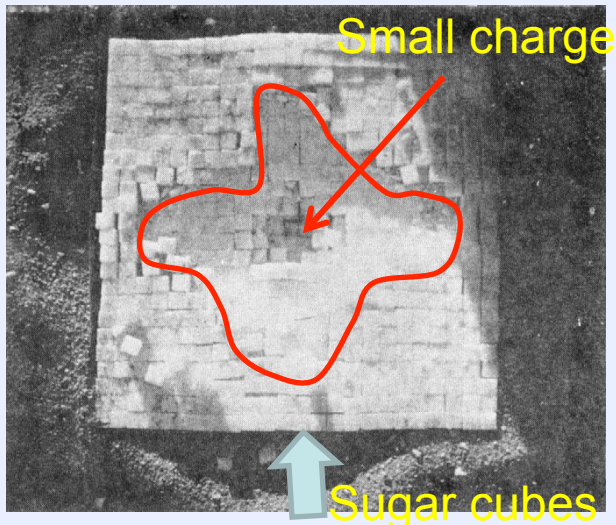




# Joints can redirect energy flow from the source

## Small scale experiment

Sugar shot (Melzer, 1970)



Small charge

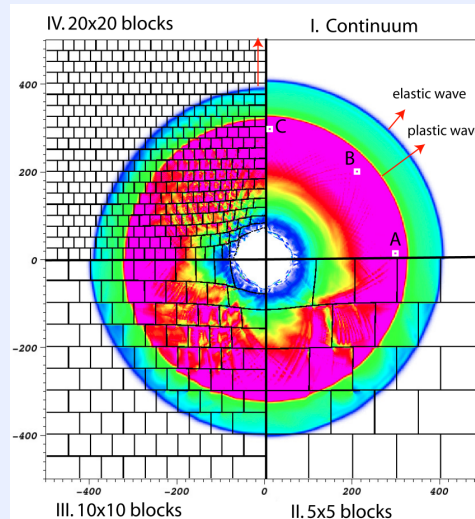
Sugar cubes

## Joint sets at SPE site

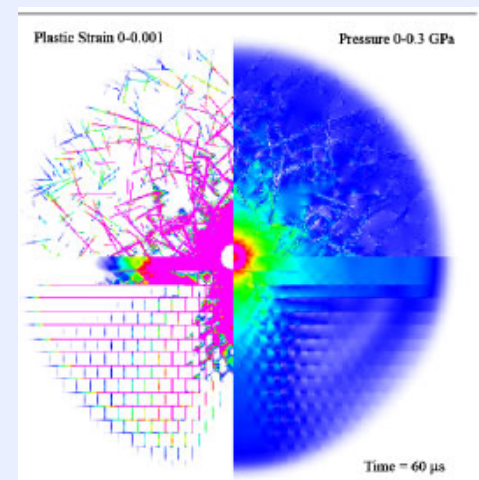
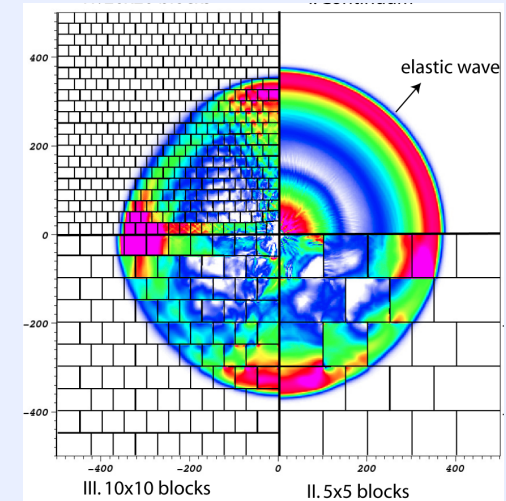


- Sets 1 & 2
- Set 3
- Set 4

## High confinement



## Low confinement



Random joints

Vorobiev, IJNME, 2010

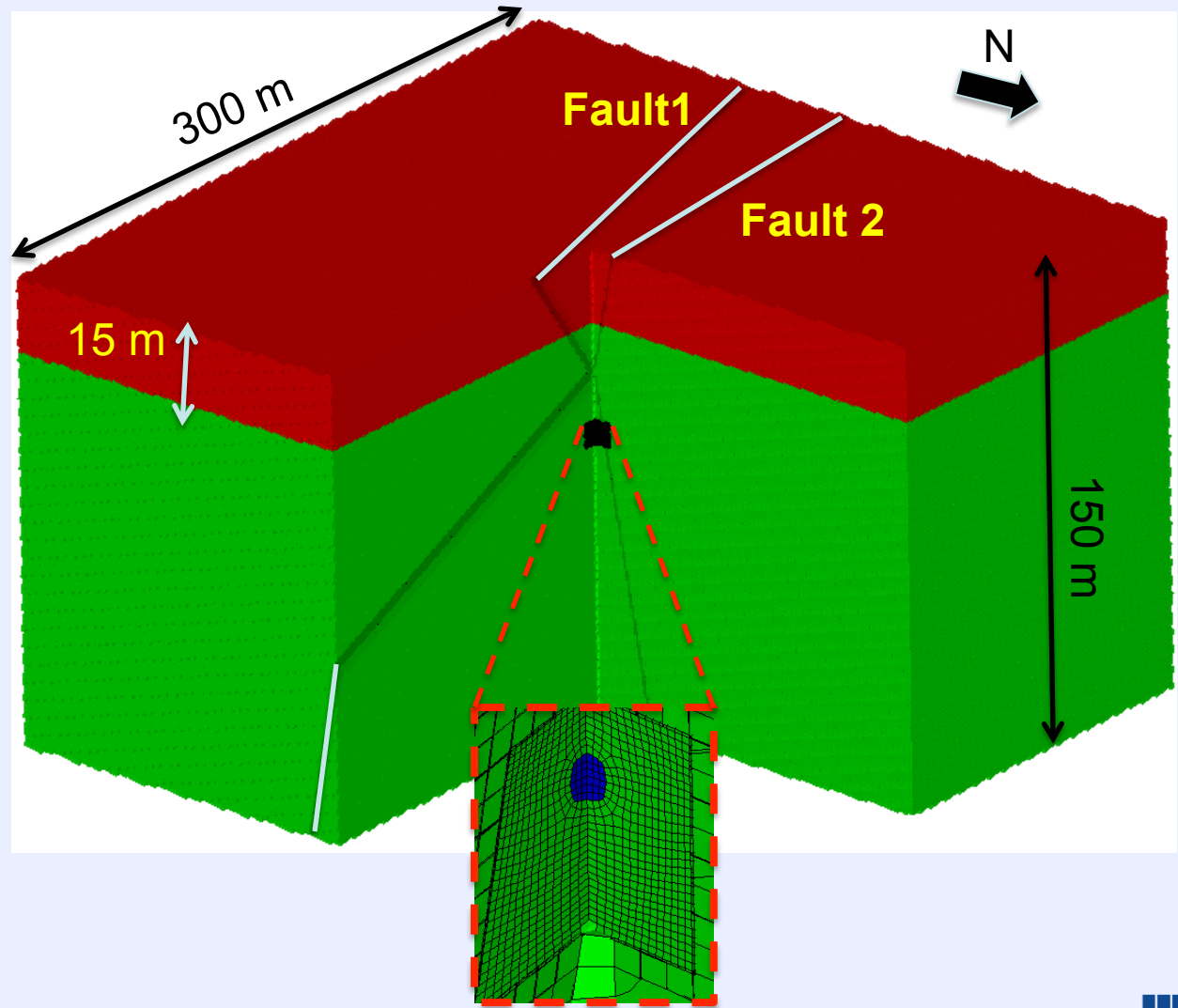
# Parallel nonlinear code GEODYN-L is used to model near-source ground motion

## Dimensions:

joint aperture ~1 mm  
joints spacing ~1 m  
source size ~1 m  
region ~300 m

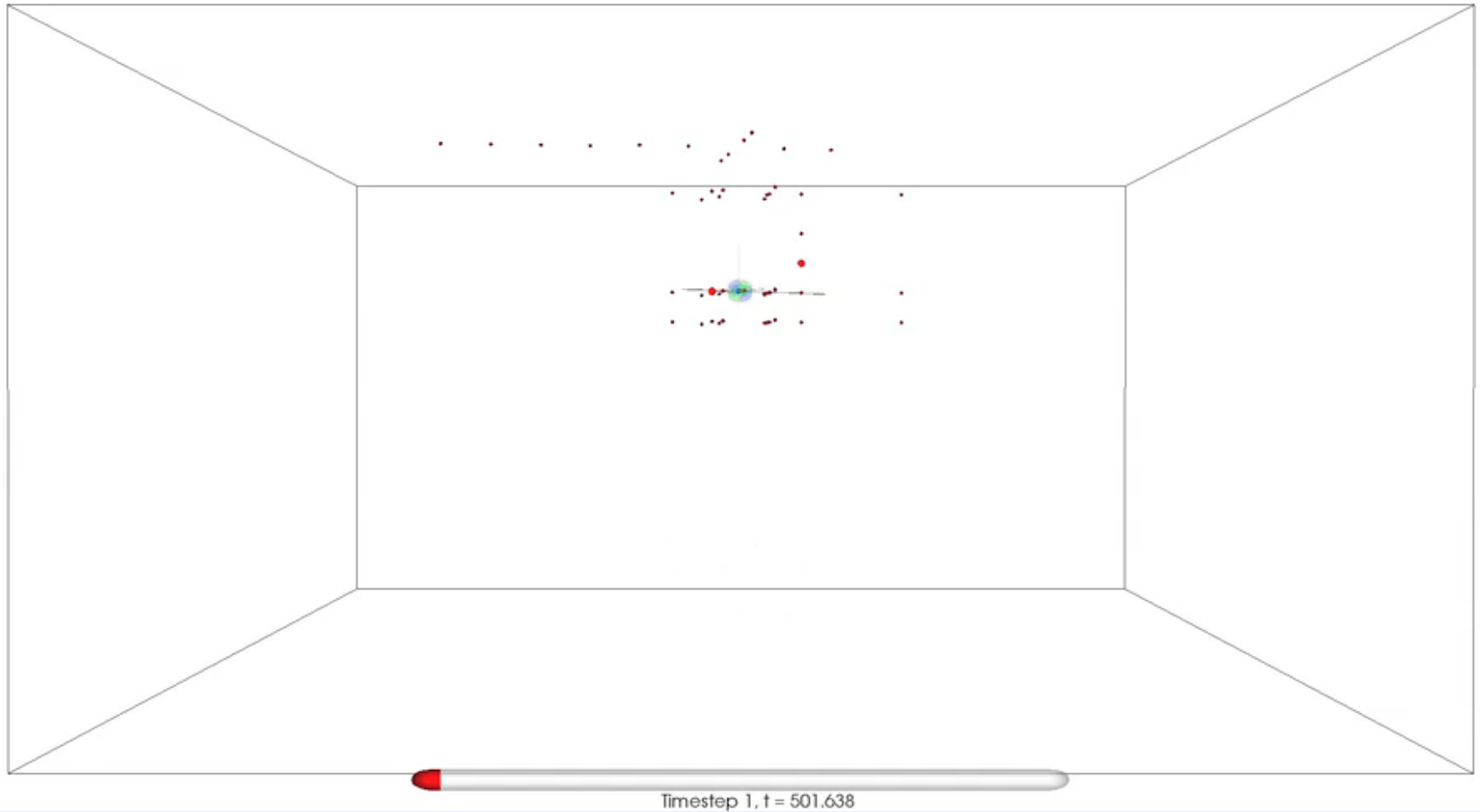
## Computational model:

~20-50 million  
elements  
~100-200 million zones  
3240 CPU for 12 hours





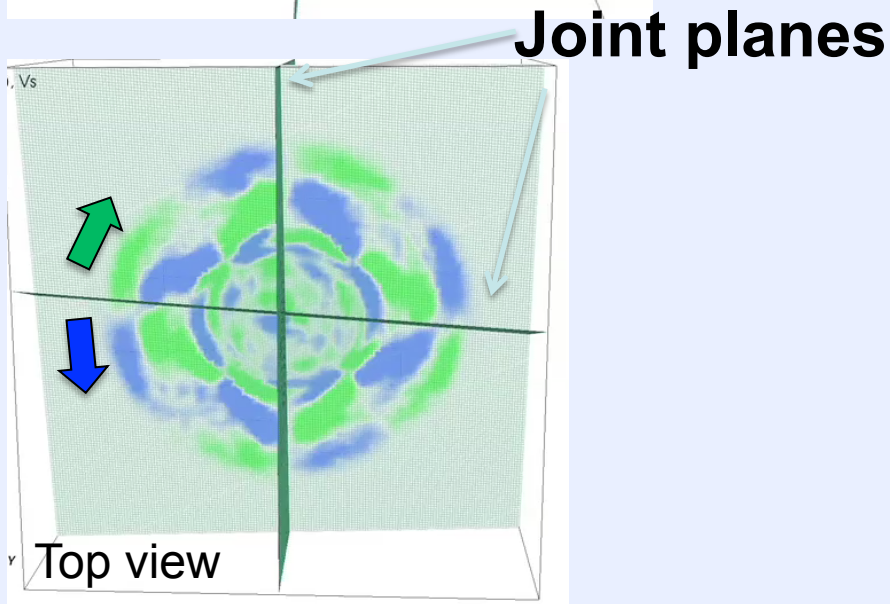
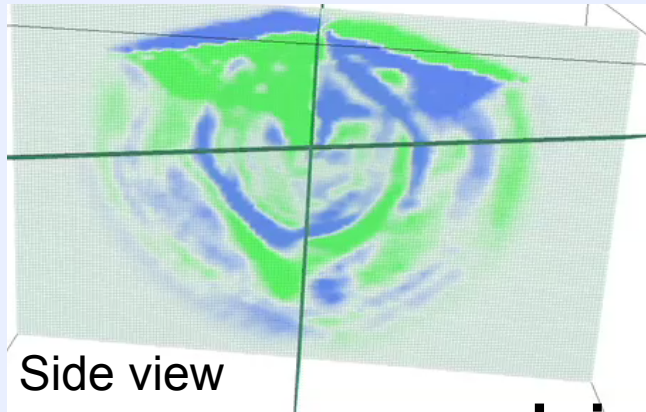
# SPE3 discrete model: horizontal shear wave generation



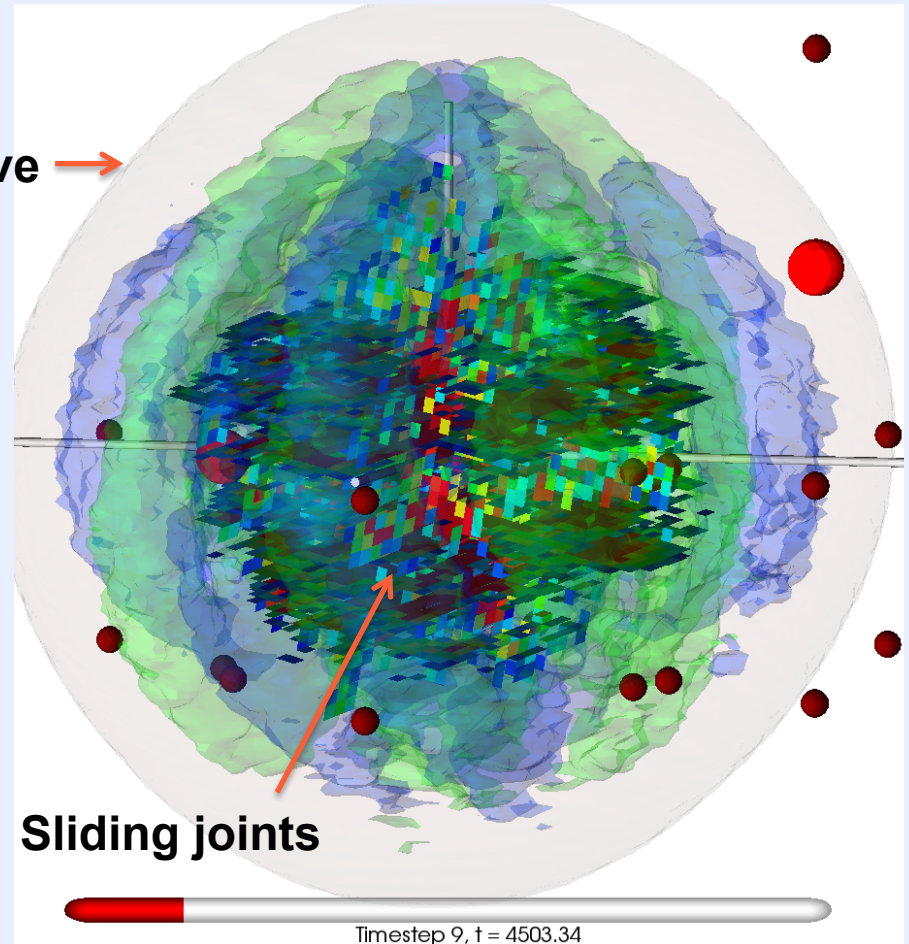
**Discrete-continuum simulation of SPE3 using GEODYN-L**

# Vertical joint sets define polarity of horizontal shear motion

## Horizontal shear motion of different polarity

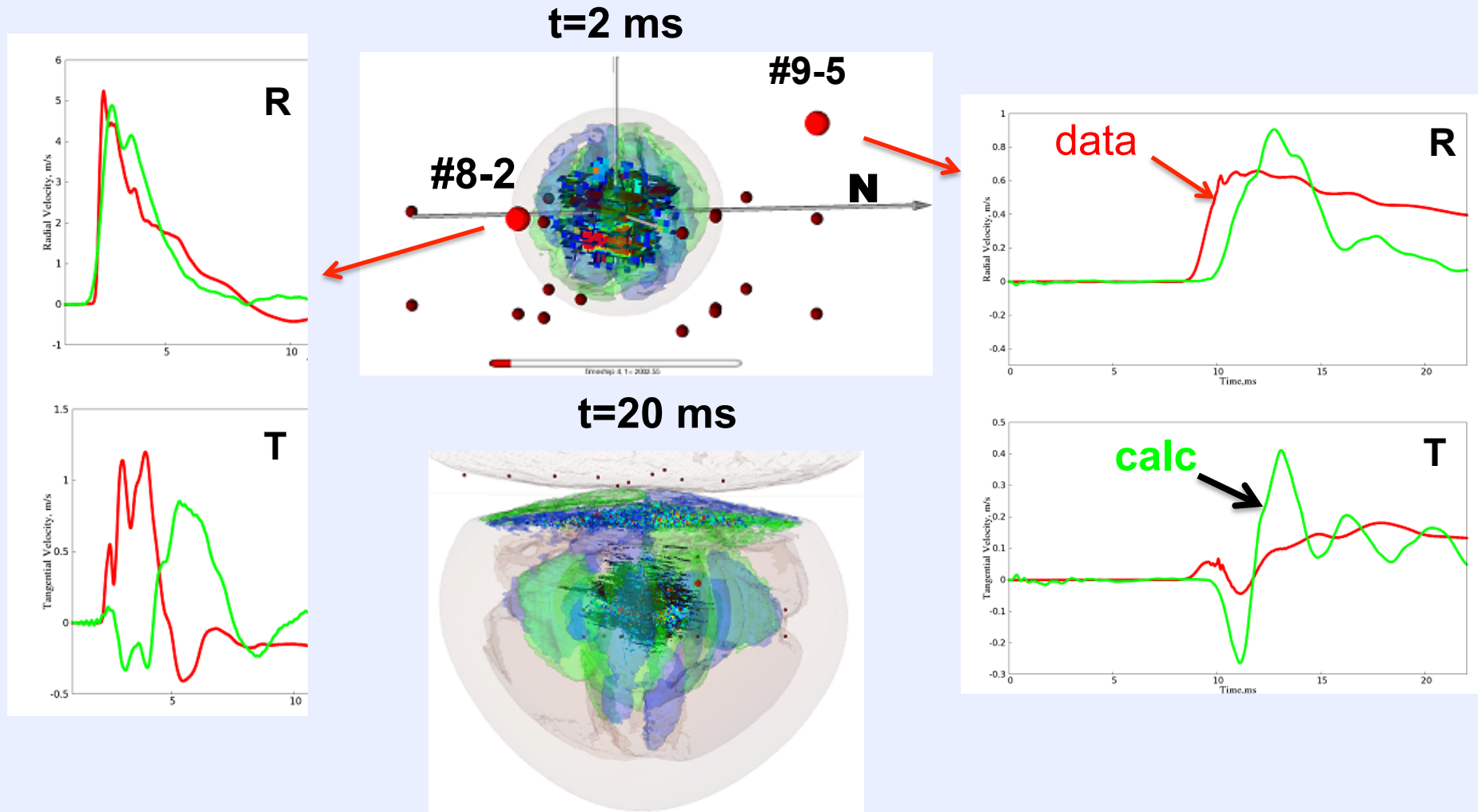


p-wave →



Timestep 9,  $t = 4503.34$

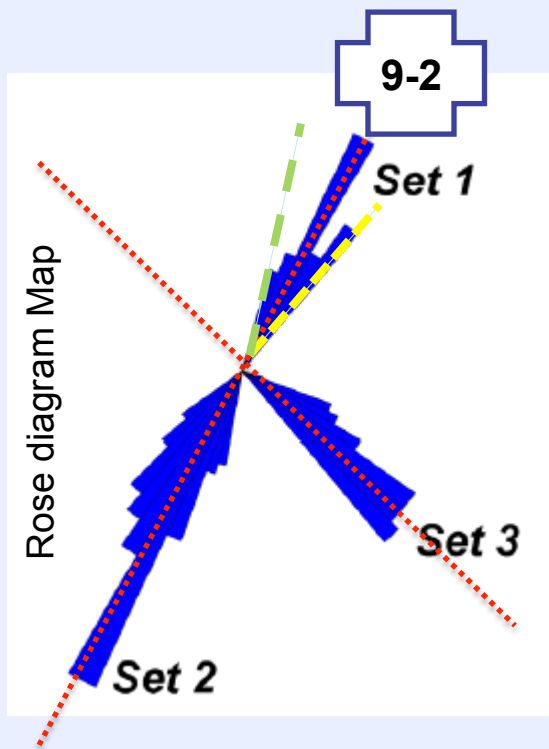
# 3D discrete model with 3 joint sets : sliding joints produce shear motion



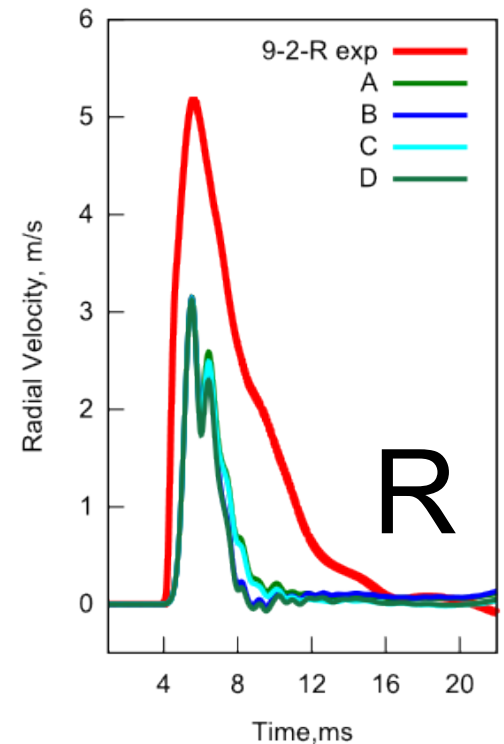
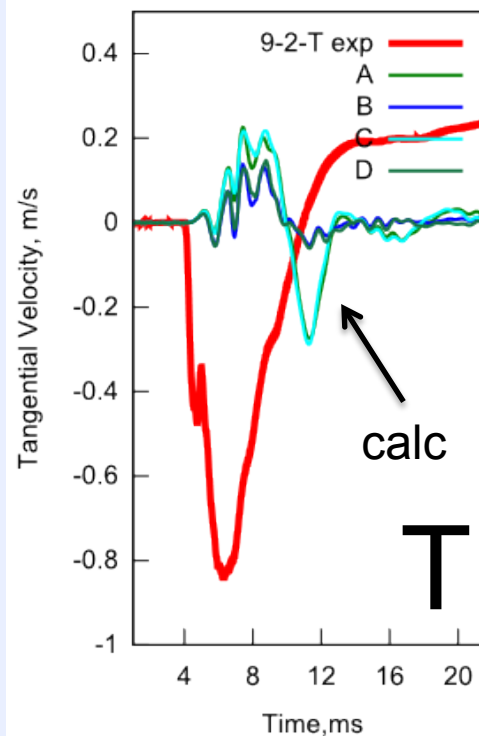


# Two vertical joint sets used in calculations cannot explain observed shear motion

*#9-2 located at the source level  
in normal direction to vertical joint  
set 1 (which corresponds to high  
dip angle sets Set-1 and Set-2)*



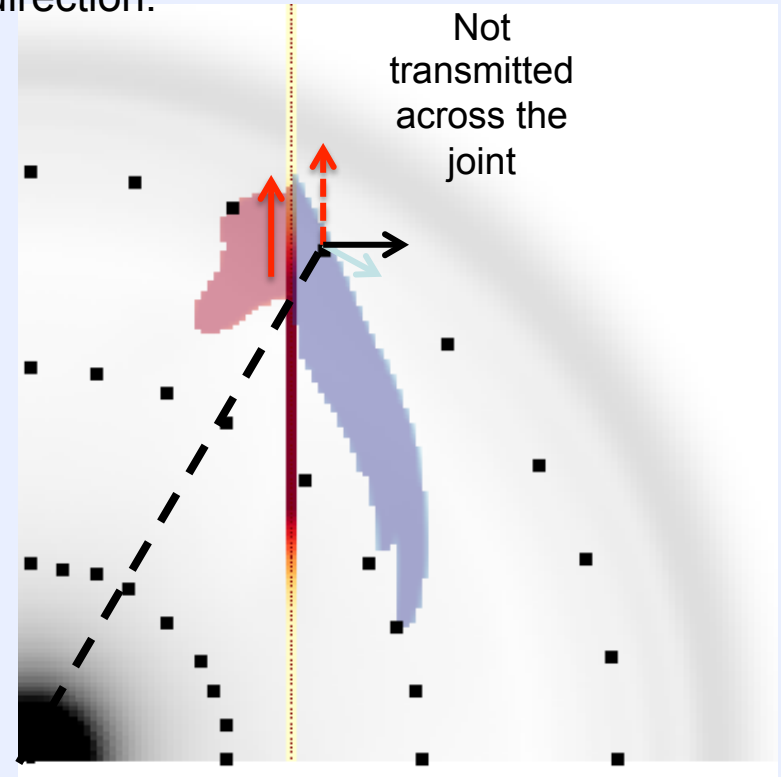
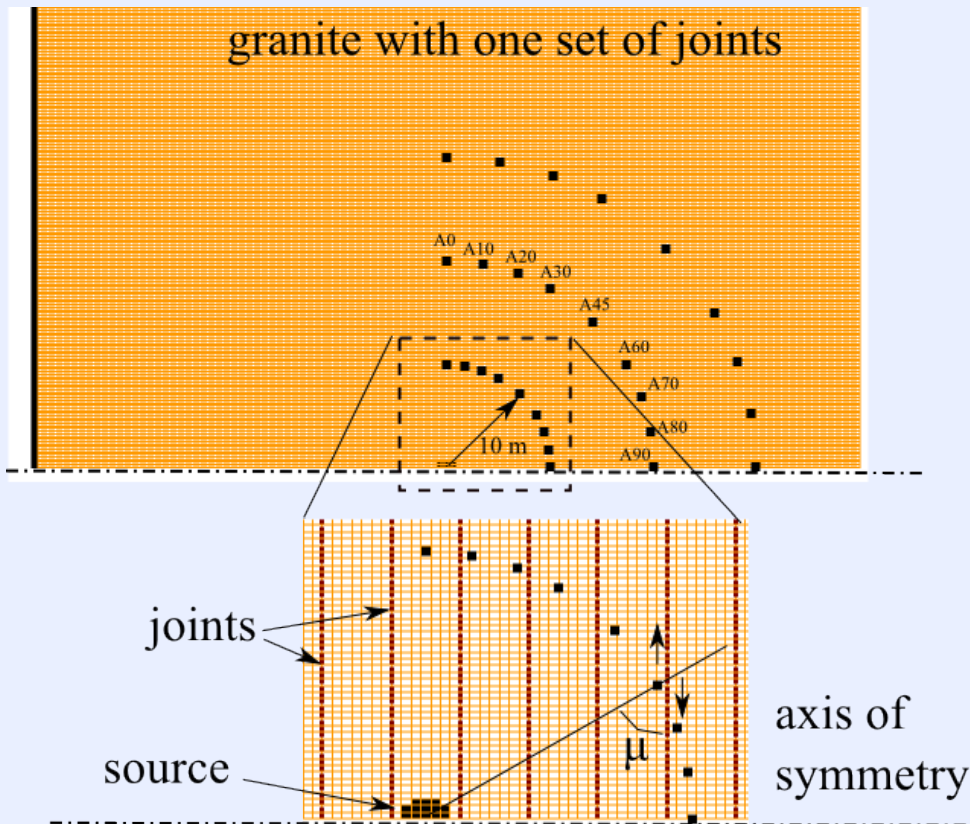
## Data vs calculations at 20 m Range



# A single vertical joint generates shear motion but not over sufficiently wide azimuth

**2D:** Motion at 10 and 20 m range for locations oriented at various angles relative to the joint direction:  
Joints slide if  $m > \text{the friction angle}$

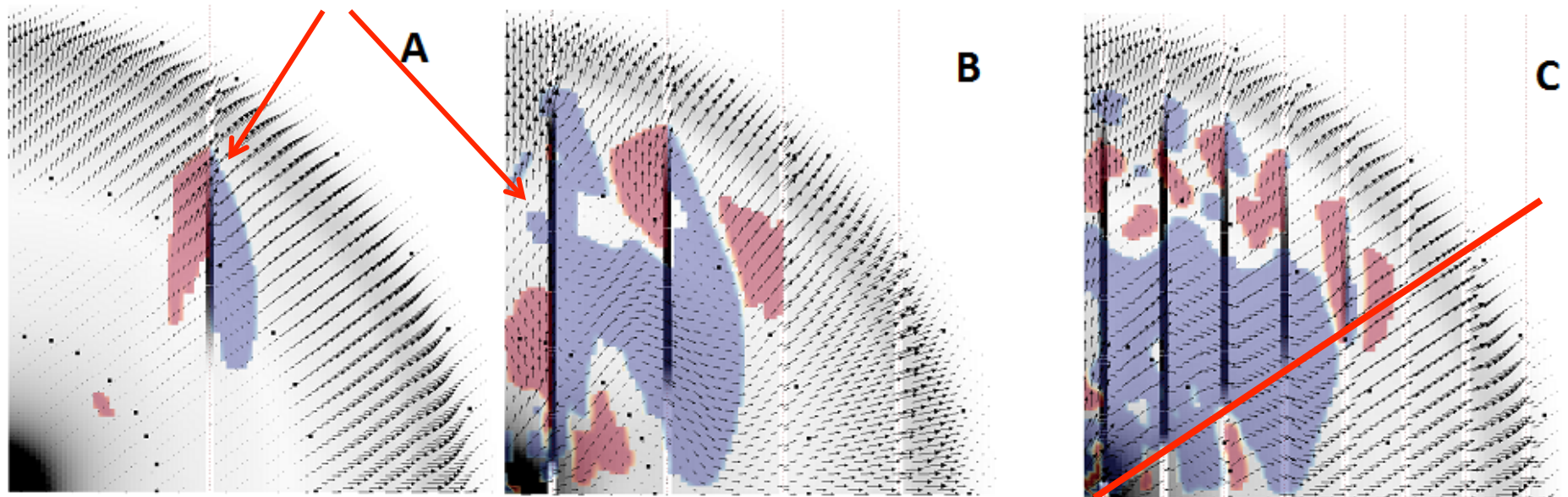
**One joint,  $t=9$  ms**



# Increasing the number of joints widens the azimuthal region of shear motion

**Sliding joints**

Increased joint density



Velocity vectors and tangential velocity directions at 7 ms

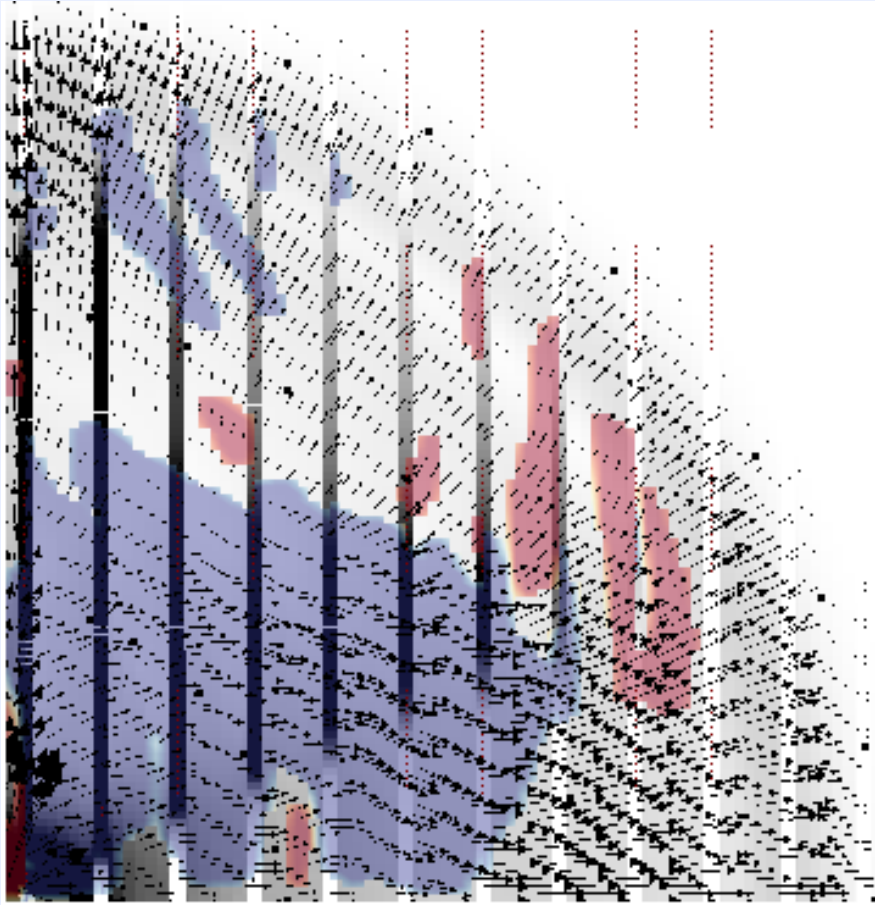
Blue clock-wise, red counter-clock-wise.

Friction coefficient=0.6. Slip on the joints is shown in dark grey

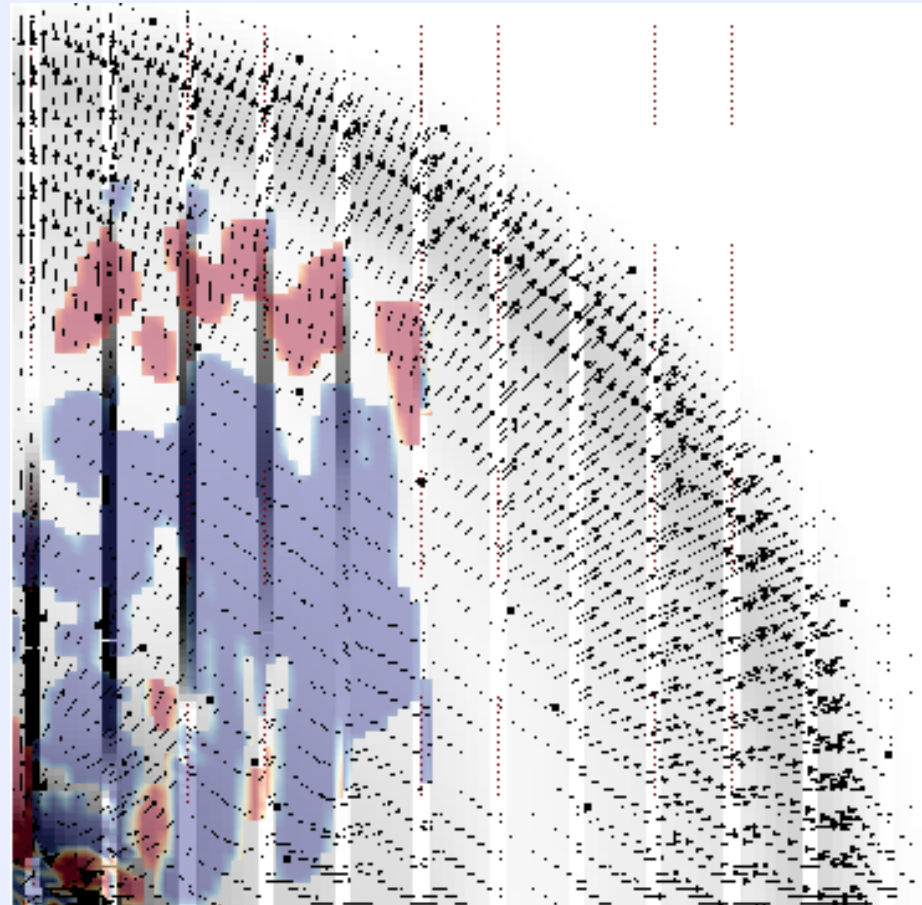


# The azimuthal region with shear motion also widens with decreasing friction

**Friction  $\sim 0.4$**



**Friction  $\sim 0.8$**



# Anomalous high velocity can be explained by various joint properties in the vicinity of that gauge

## Assumptions:

### #7-2:

joint spacing= 2.5 m

Friction =0.4

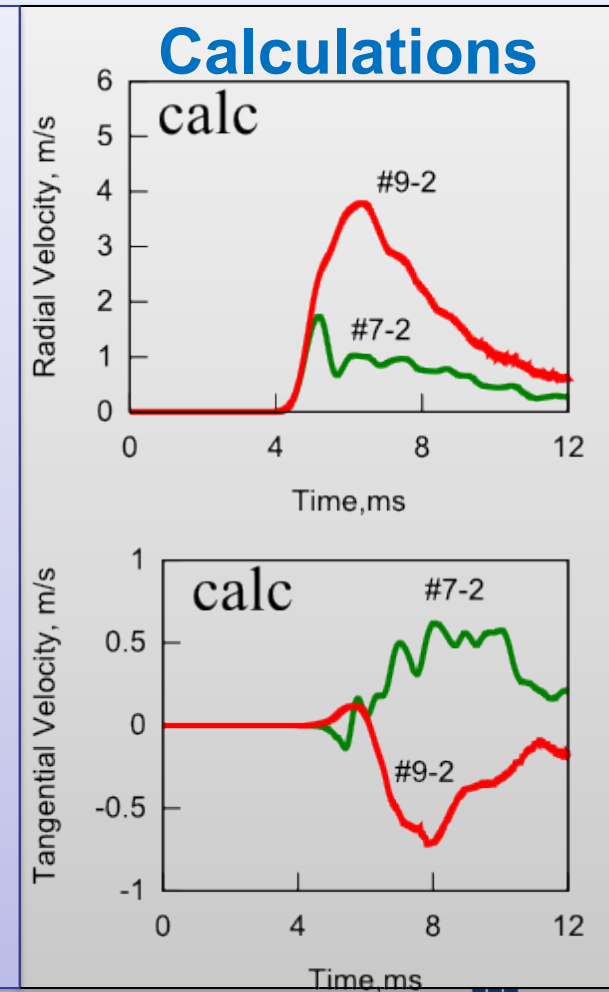
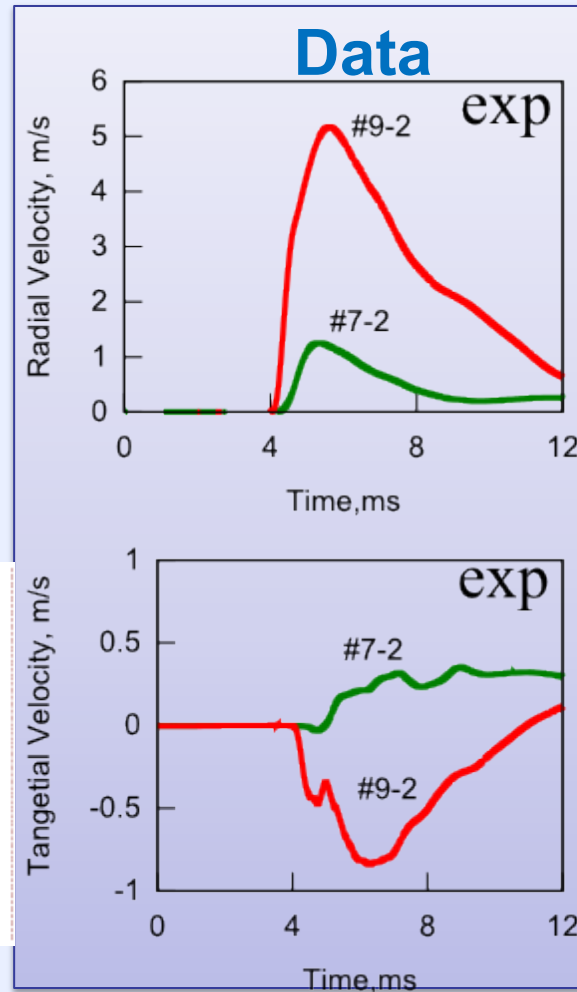
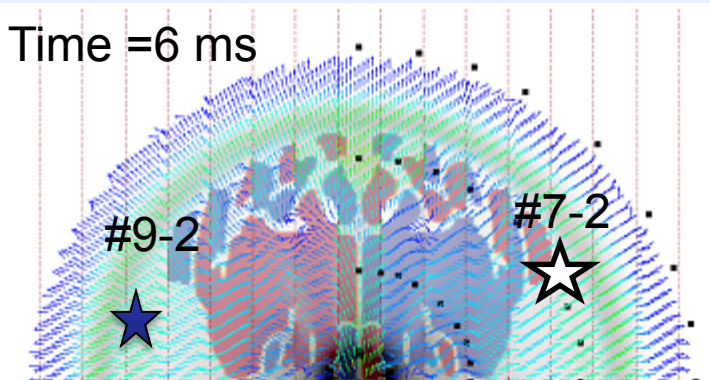
Azimuth =30 degrees

### #9-2:

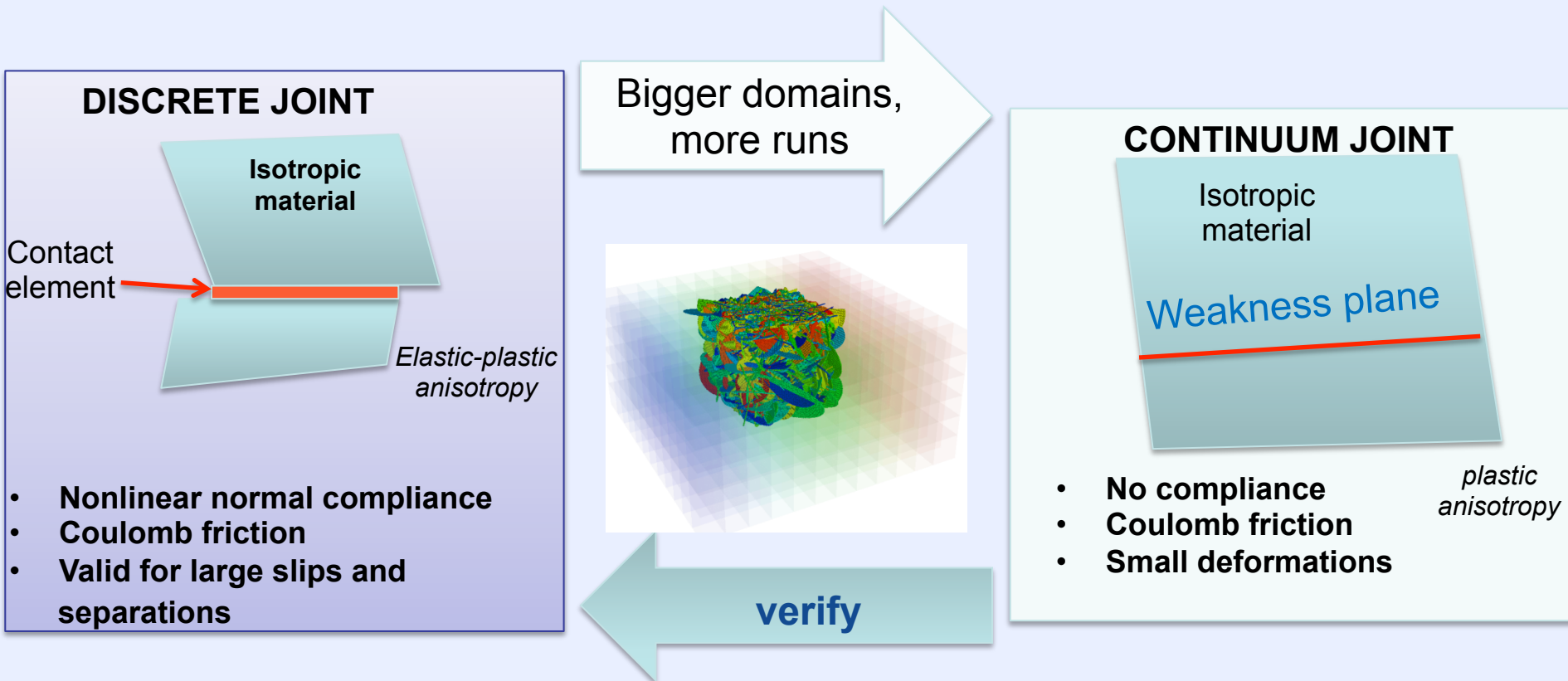
Joint spacing = 1.6 m

Friction =0.2

Azimuth= 170 degrees



# We have employed a continuum joint modeling to study effects of joint orientations and gravity



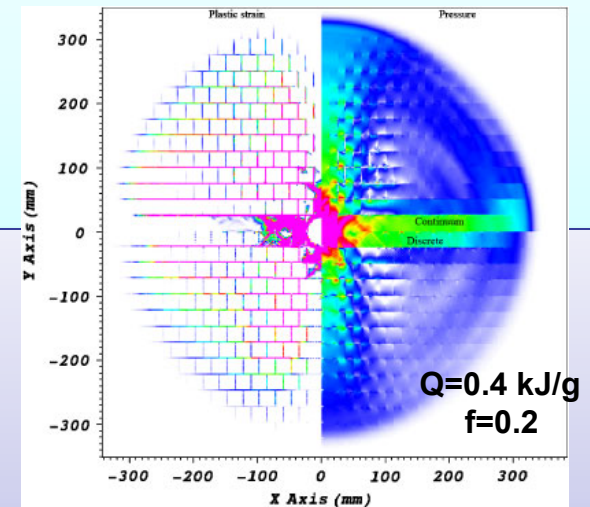
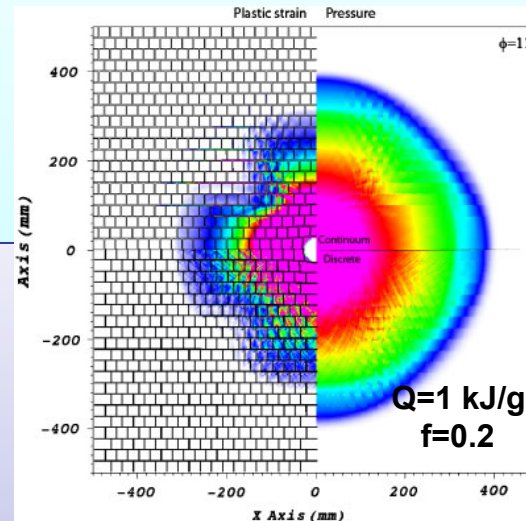
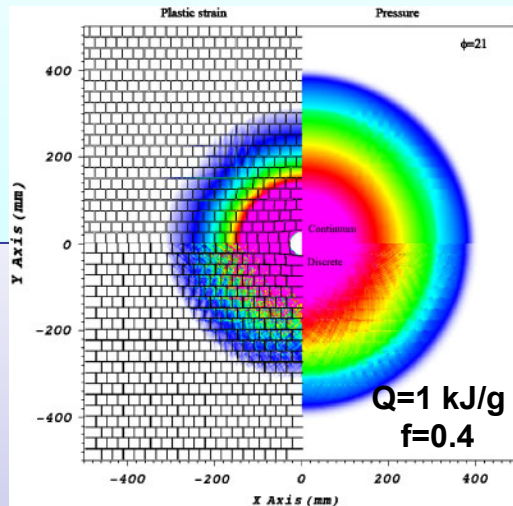
*Both discrete and continuum joint models assume that the joint spacing is bigger than the element size*





# Discrete and continuum joint methods produce similar results where the flow is controlled by plasticity (2D)

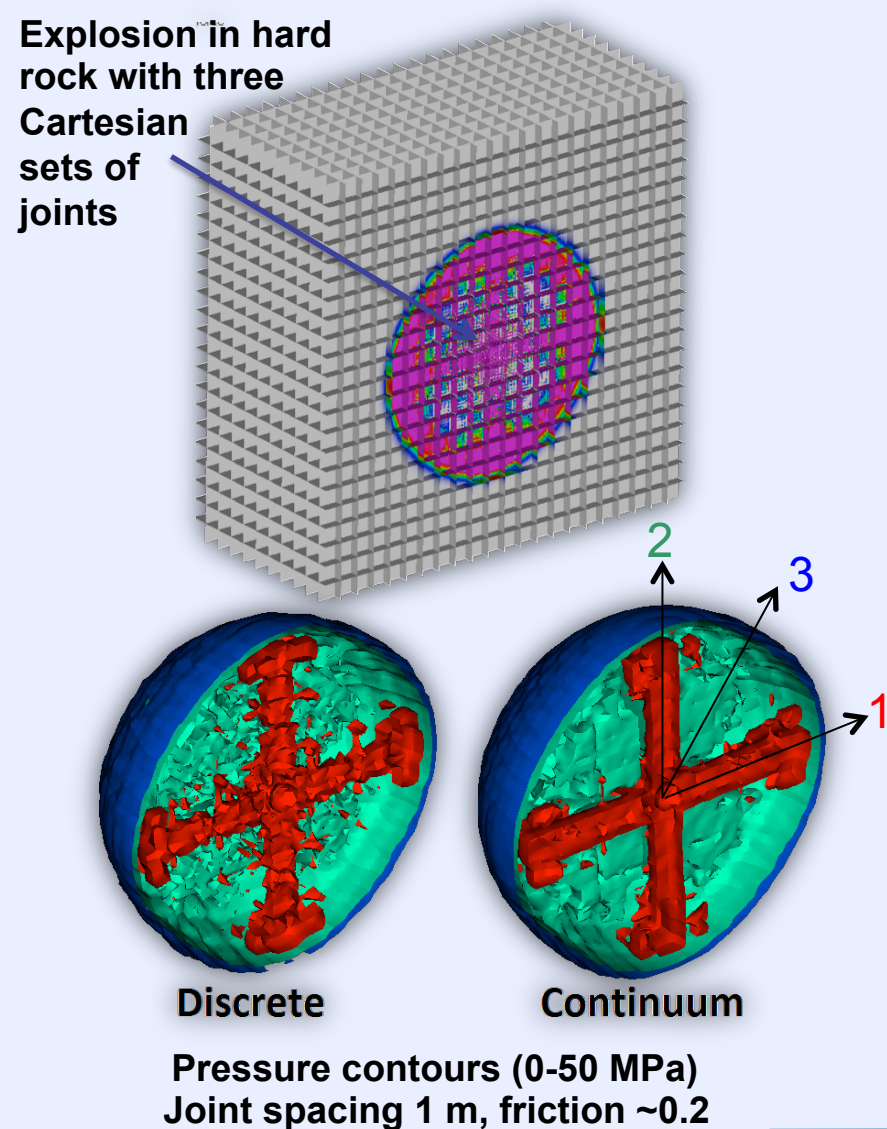
## CONTINUUM



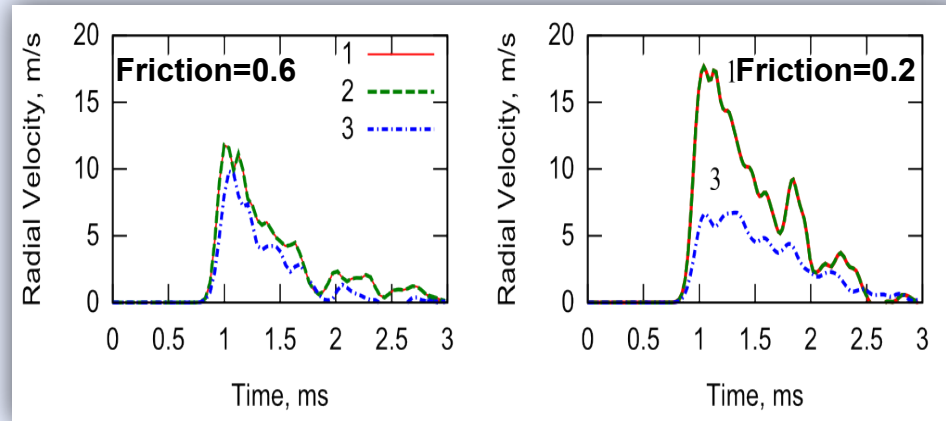
## DISCRETE



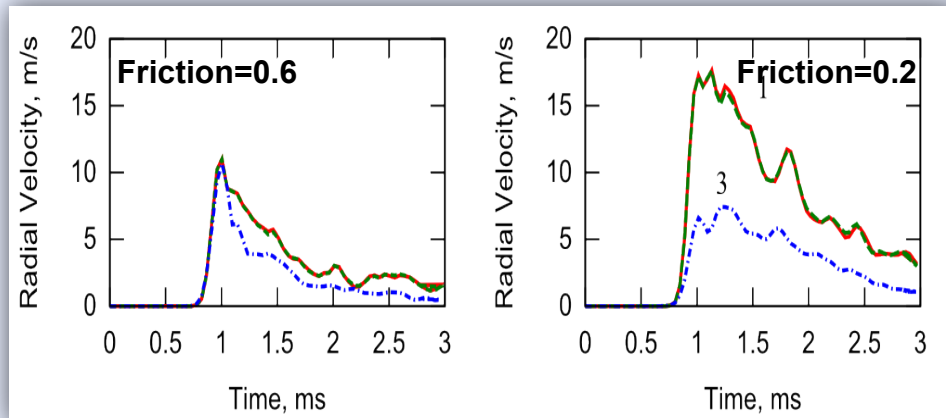
# Discrete and continuum methods show similar results (3D)



## Discrete joint representation



## Continuum joint representation

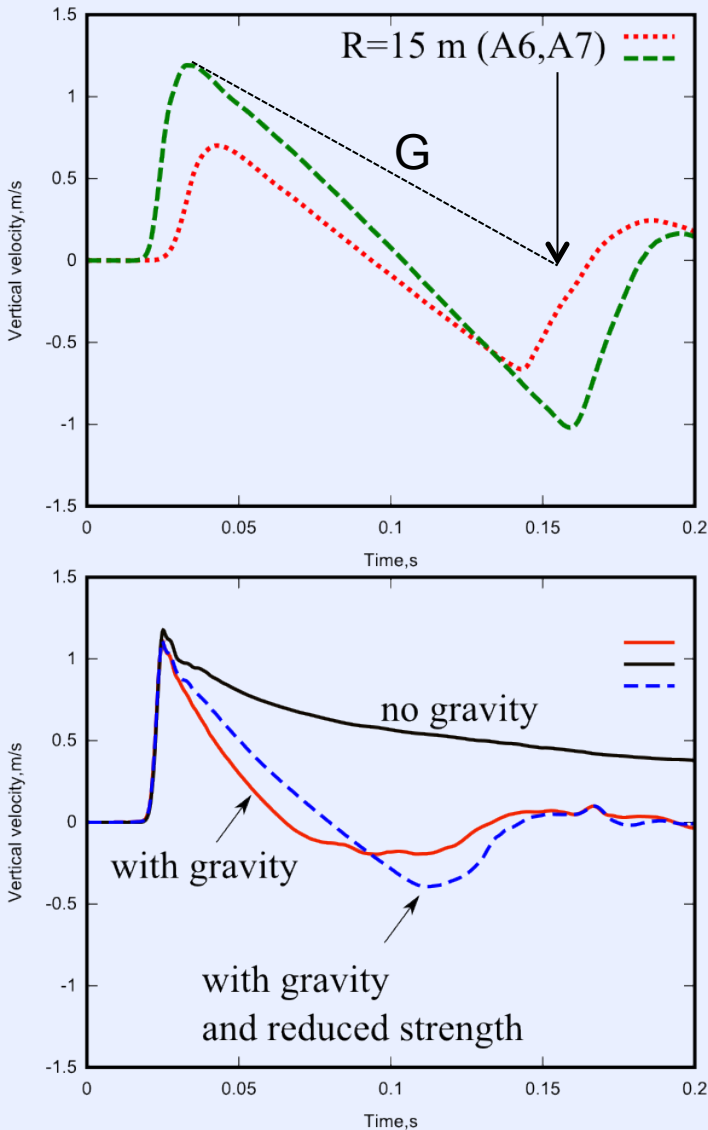


## Dependence on joint friction

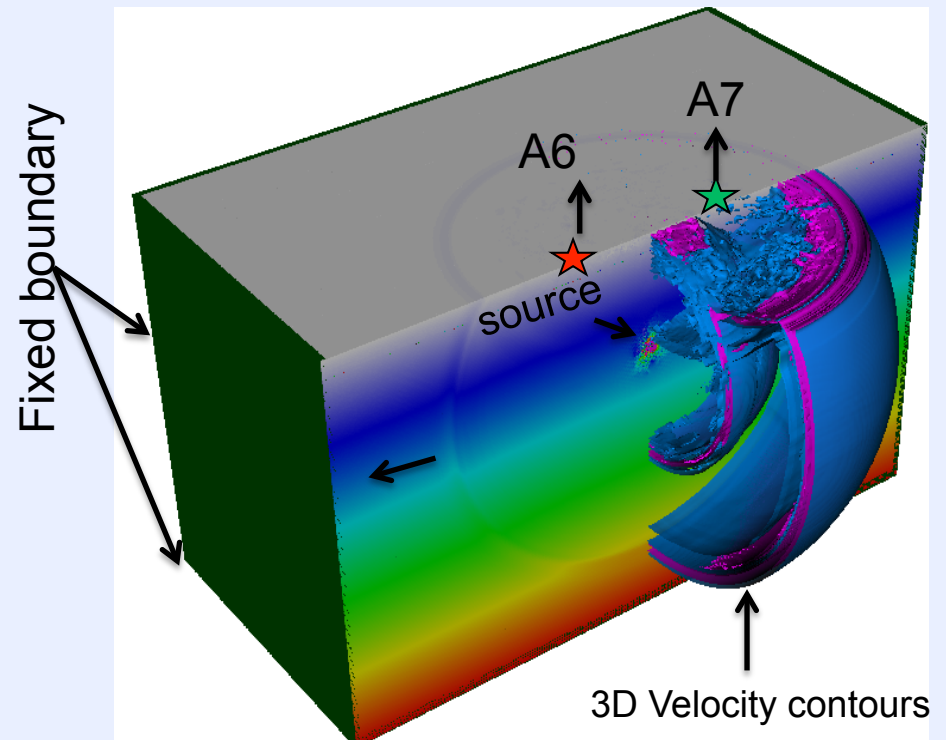


# Material tensile strength affects the vertical velocity calculated at the surface

Experiment



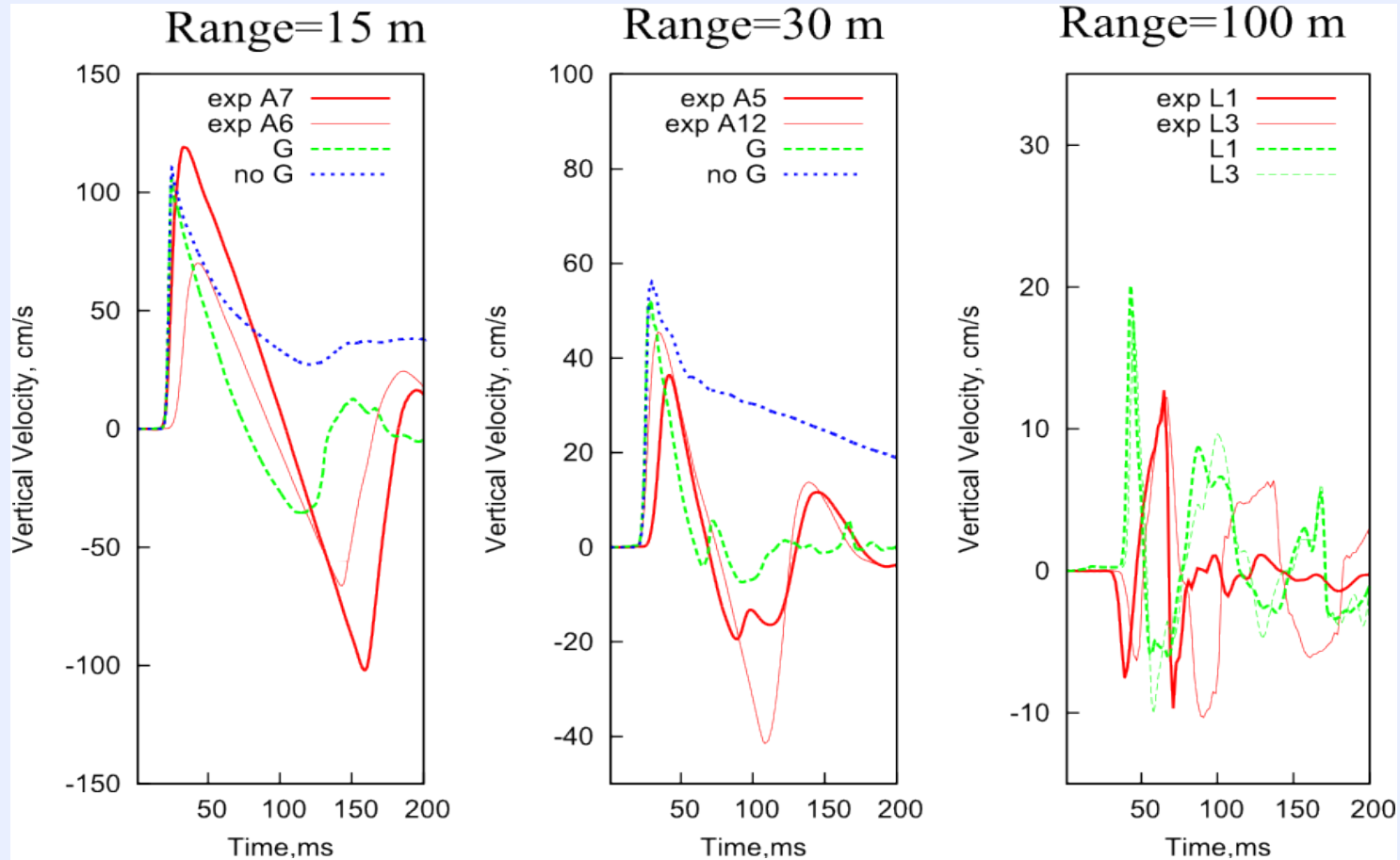
Calculation set up with gravity





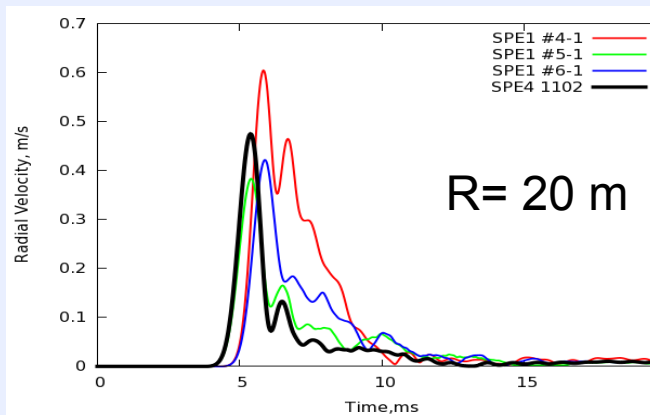
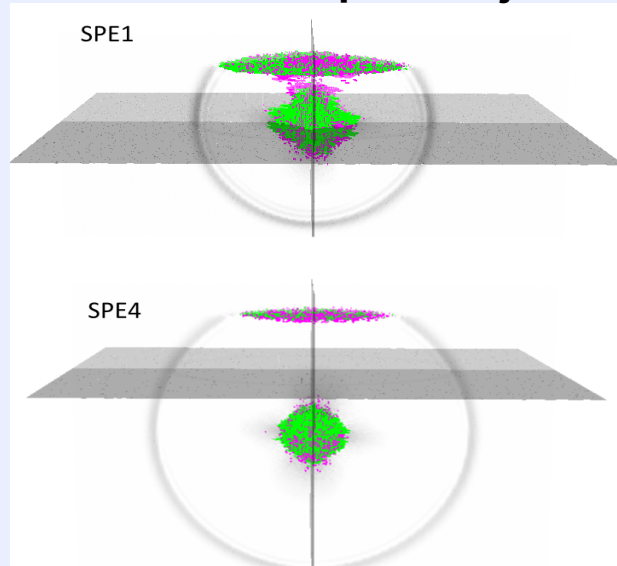
# Continuum model with gravity provides reasonable agreement with the surface measurements in SPE3

*Continuum joint model, 600mx600mx300m domain, 834 CPU, 6 hours*

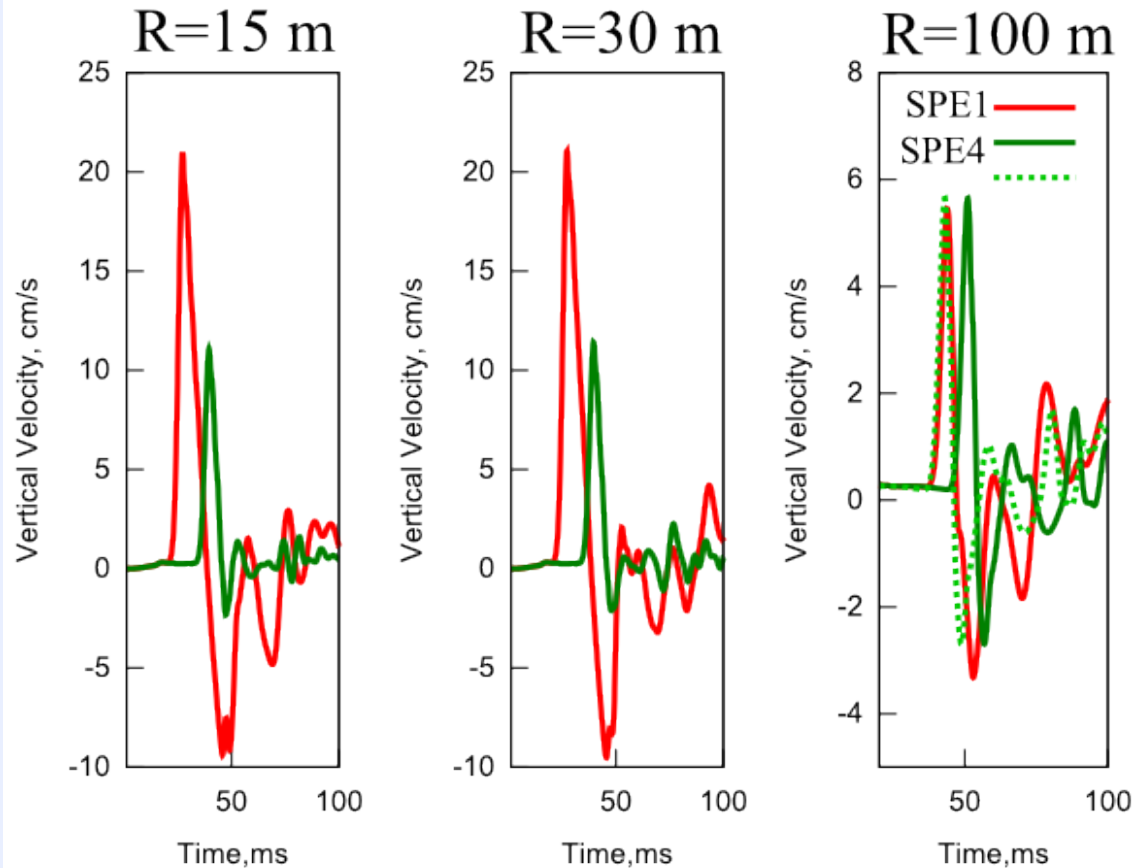


# We expect similar near field velocities in SPE4 as in SPE1 with less damage near the surface

## Plastic Slip at the joints

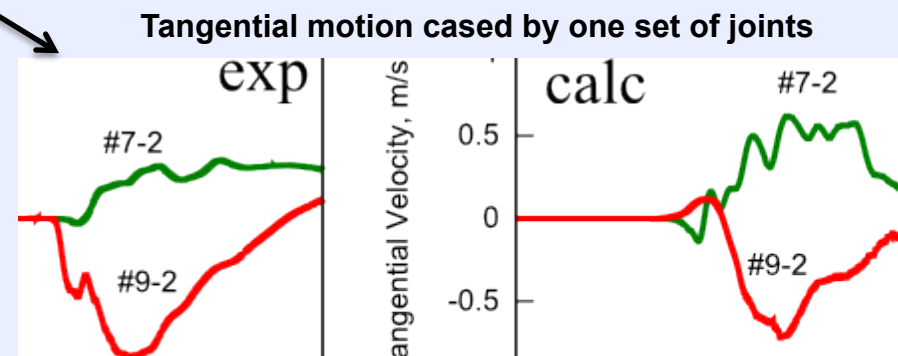
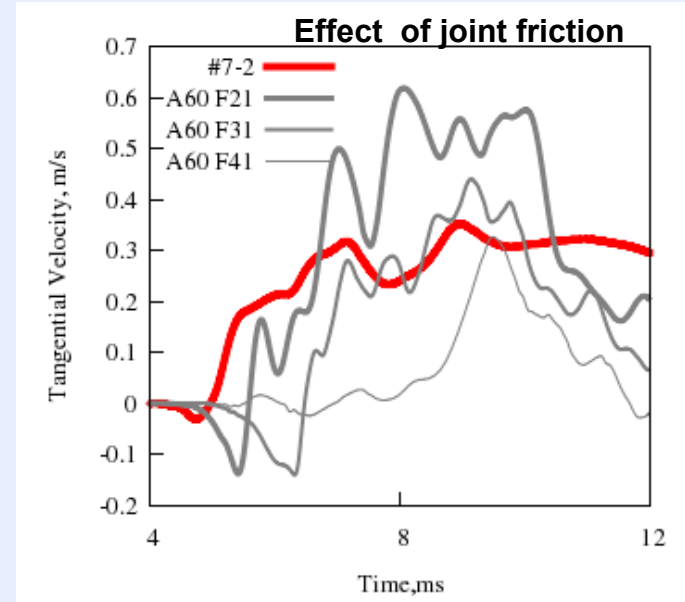


## Calculated surface motion (SPE1 vs SPE4) the model is calibrated for SPE3 data first



# Conclusions

- Vertical Joints can cause significant horizontal motion comparable with that observed in the SPE experiments
- Both joint spacing and friction angle affect the amount of produced shear motion.
- The higher the friction, the shorter and more delayed is the pulse of the shear wave.
- By controlling the joint friction and spacing in a reasonable interval one can describe shear waves that correlate with larger than expected P-wave motion.
- Gravity is important to model the vertical velocity as well as the radial velocity near the surface



## **For more information:**

**Oleg Vorobiev**

**vorobiev1@llnl.gov**

**925-423-5151**

## **Auspices**

This work was partially performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.

## **Disclaimer**

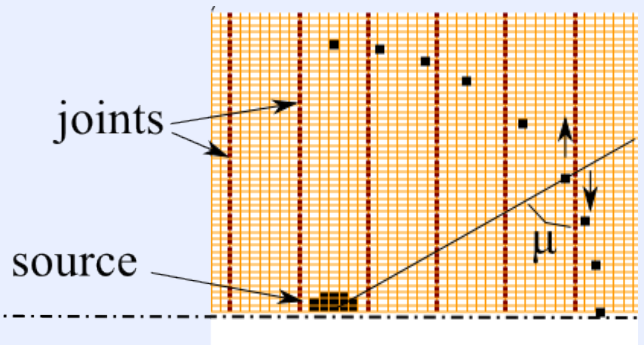
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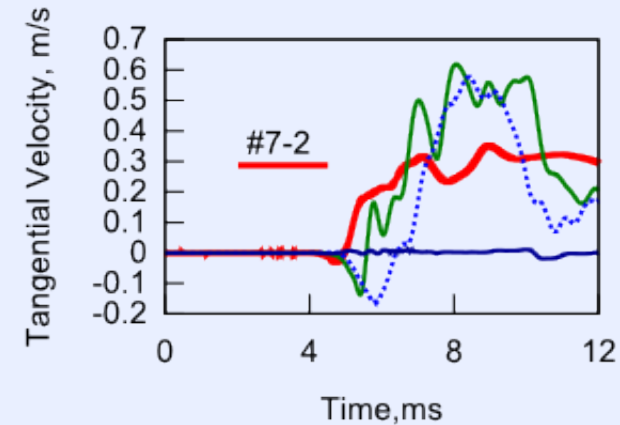
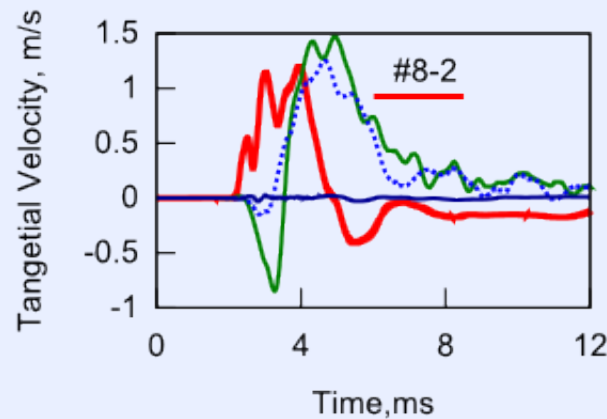
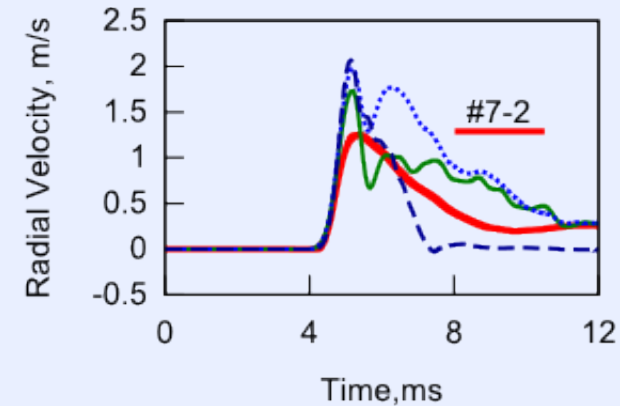
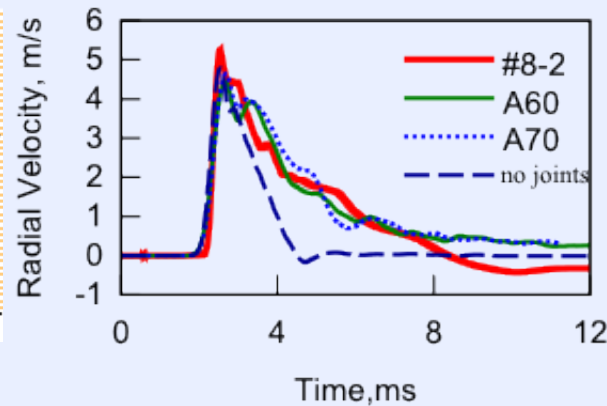


# 2D: Transverse and radial motion at 10 and 20 m ranges for 60-70 degree angles



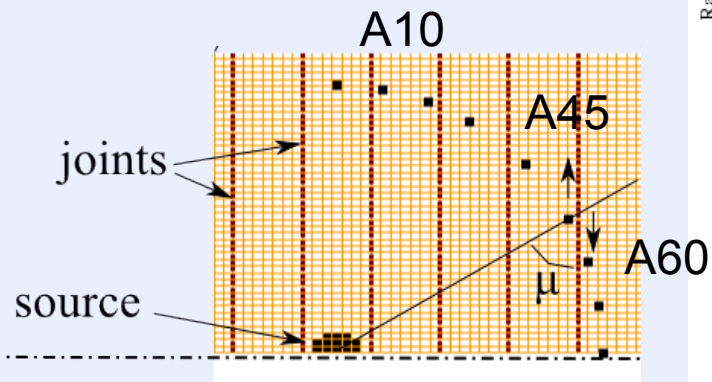
Joint spacing  $\sim 2.5$  m  
Friction angle  $\sim 30$  deg

*The joints can explain not only tangential motion but also wider radial displacements due to energy redirection (some azimuthal directions will have more and the other ones less energy)*

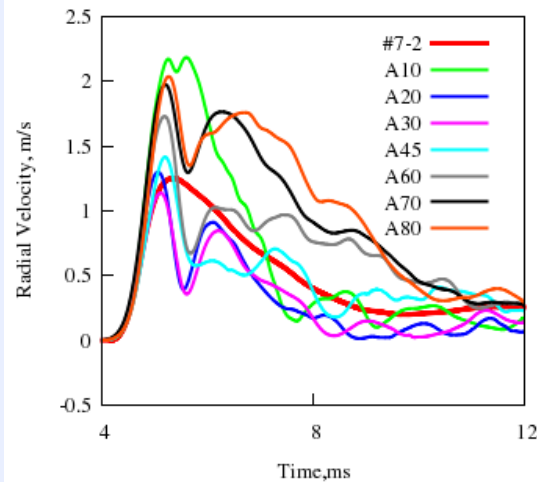


# Increasing friction delays the shear motion and makes shear pulse shorter

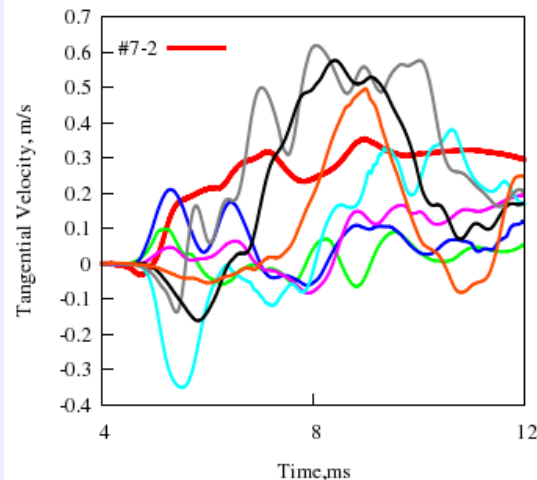
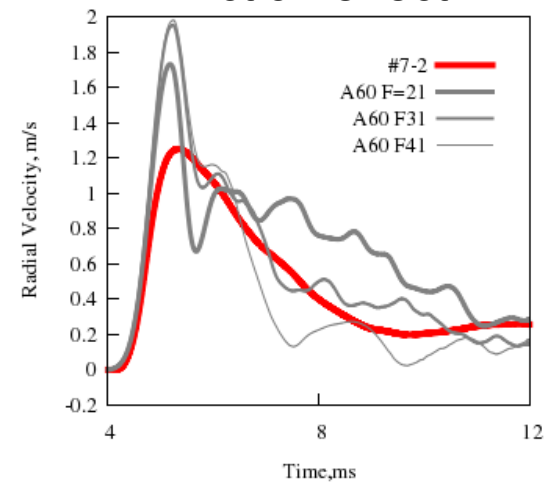
#7-2, R=20 m



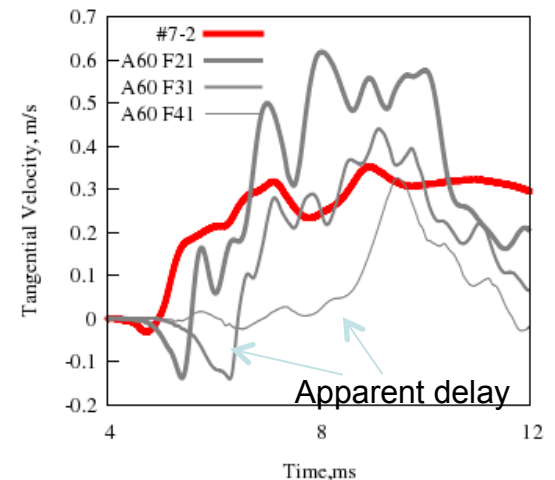
Location effect



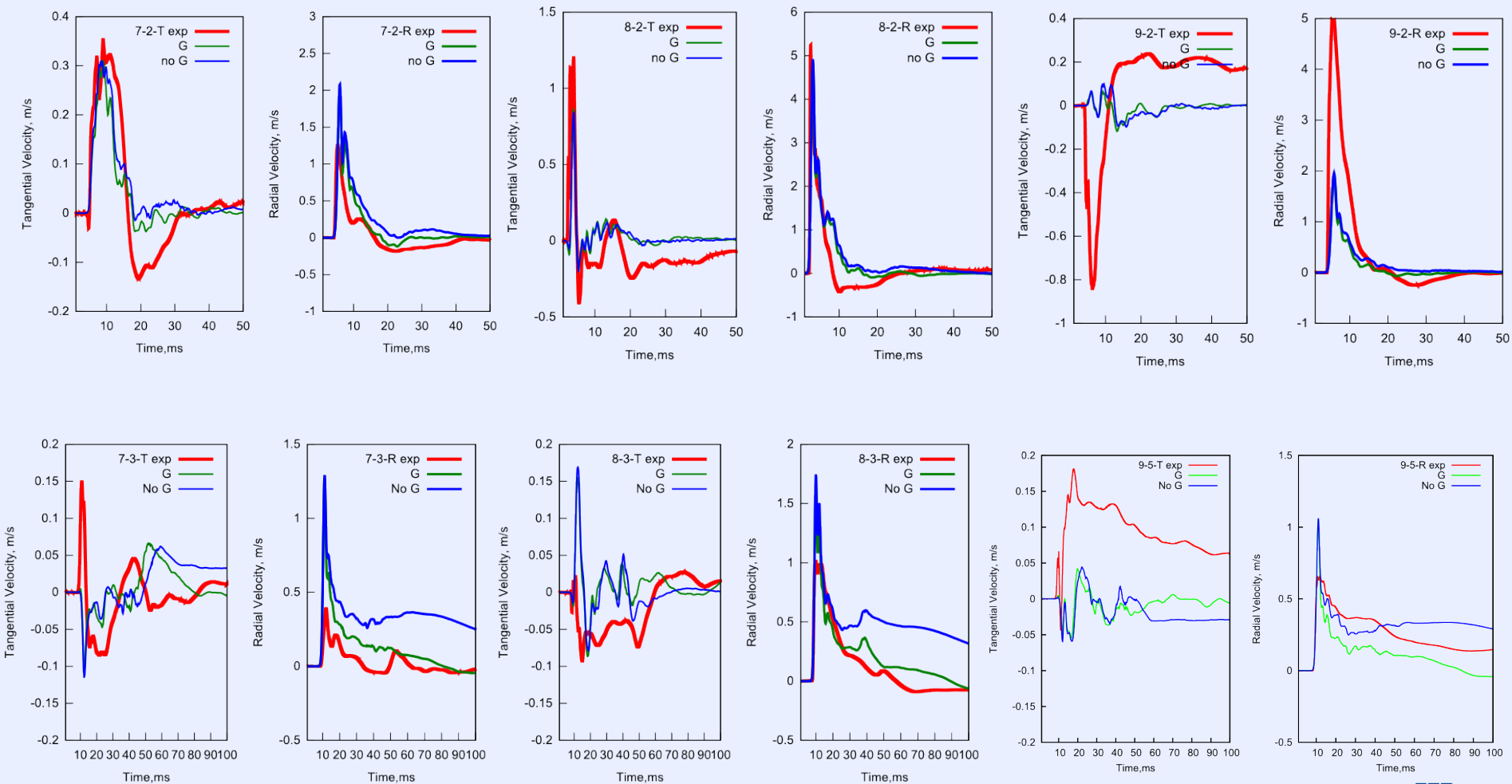
Friction effect



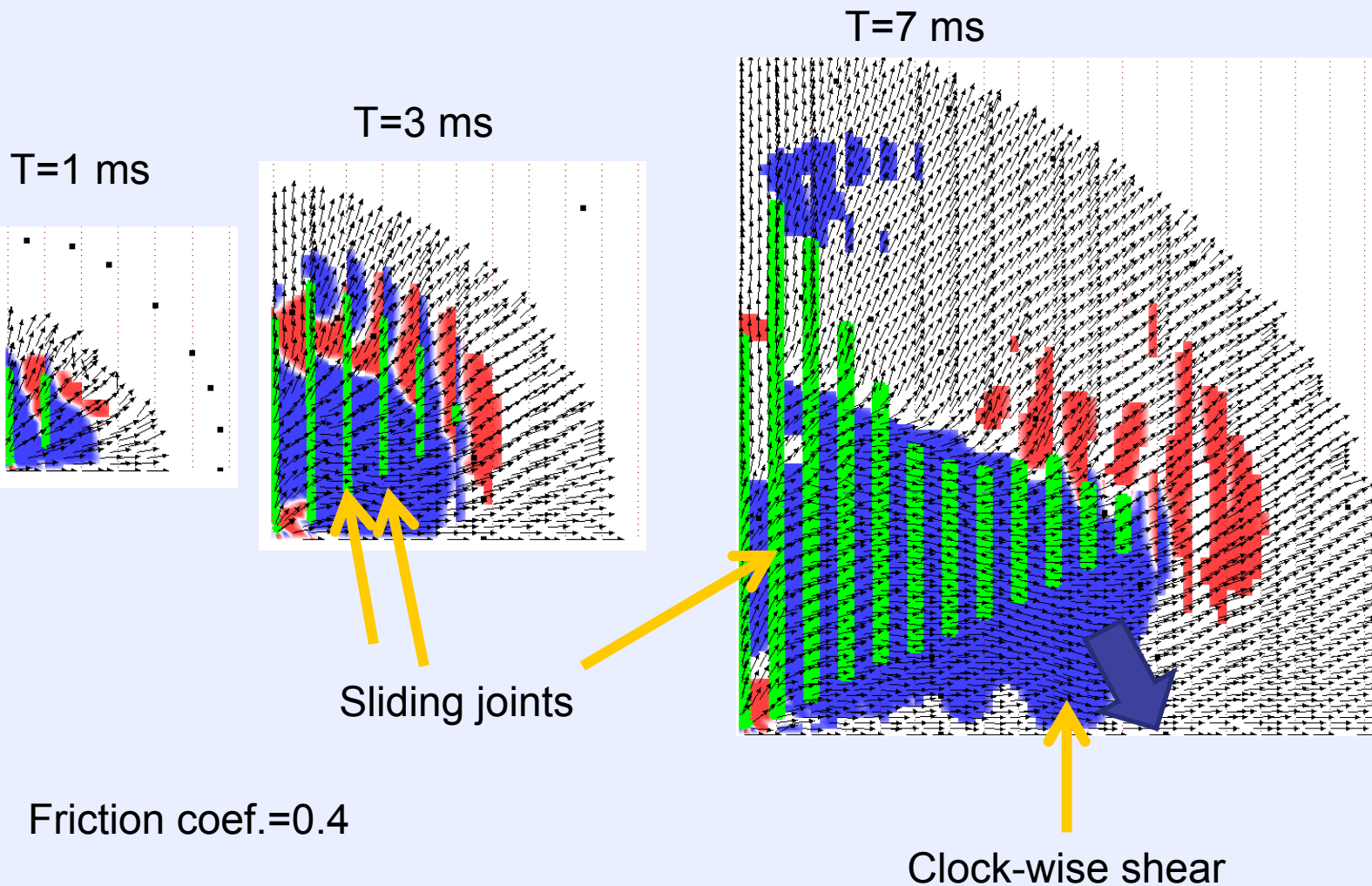
Friction angles=21,31,41



# Gravity does not affect velocity histories at $R < 20$ m



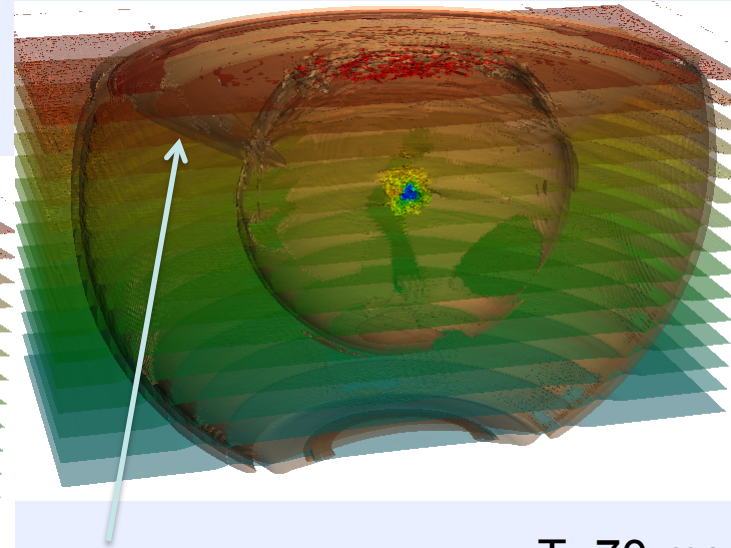
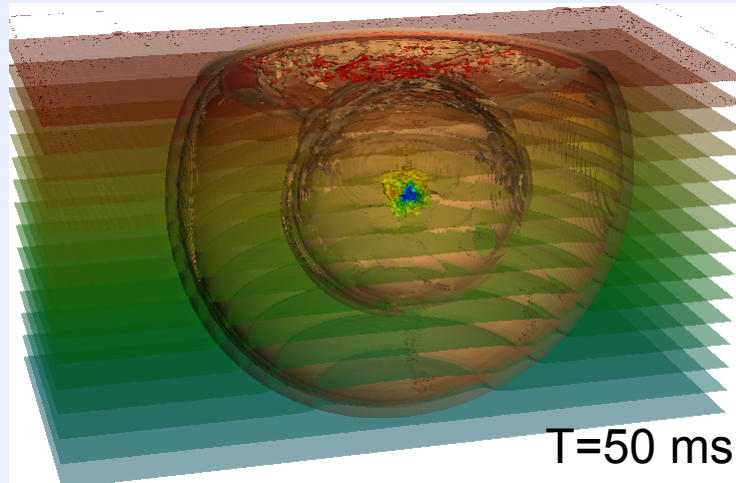
# Generation of horizontal shear motion by vertical joints



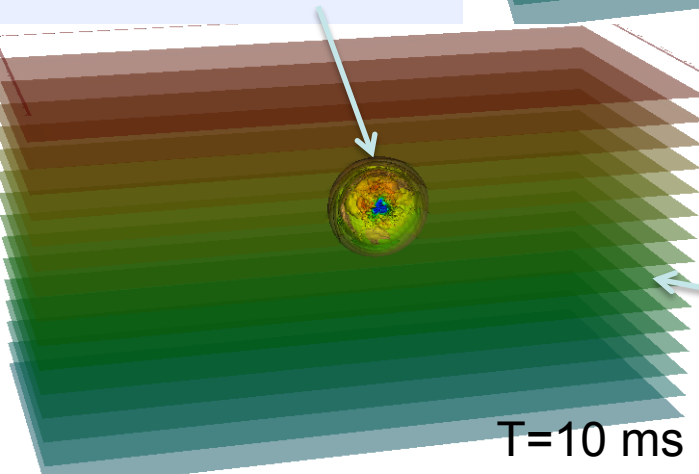


# Pressure and velocity iso-surfaces for SPE4 explosion simulation (cross-section)

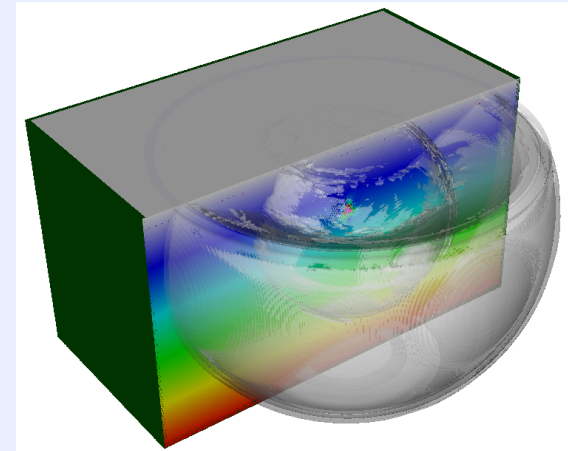
Spherical wave



Reflected wave

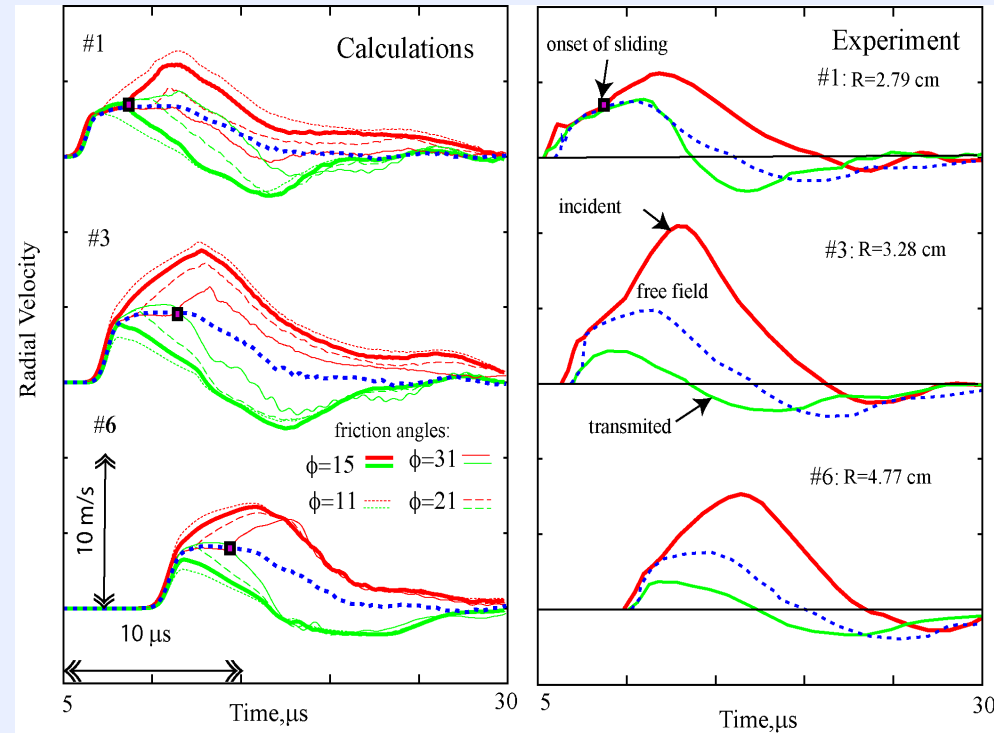
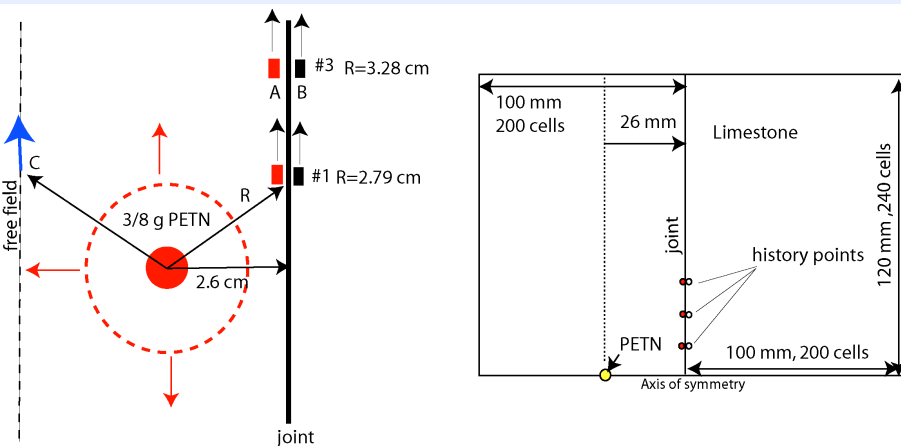


Lithostatic pressure



# Joint model has been validated for dynamic conditions

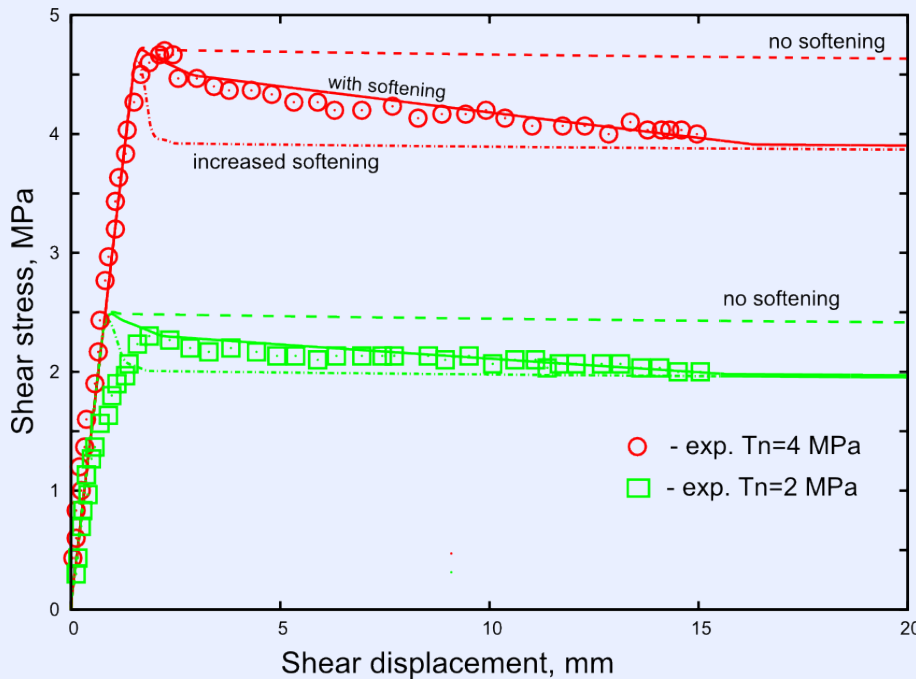
## Polished joint in Limestone loaded by a shock wave



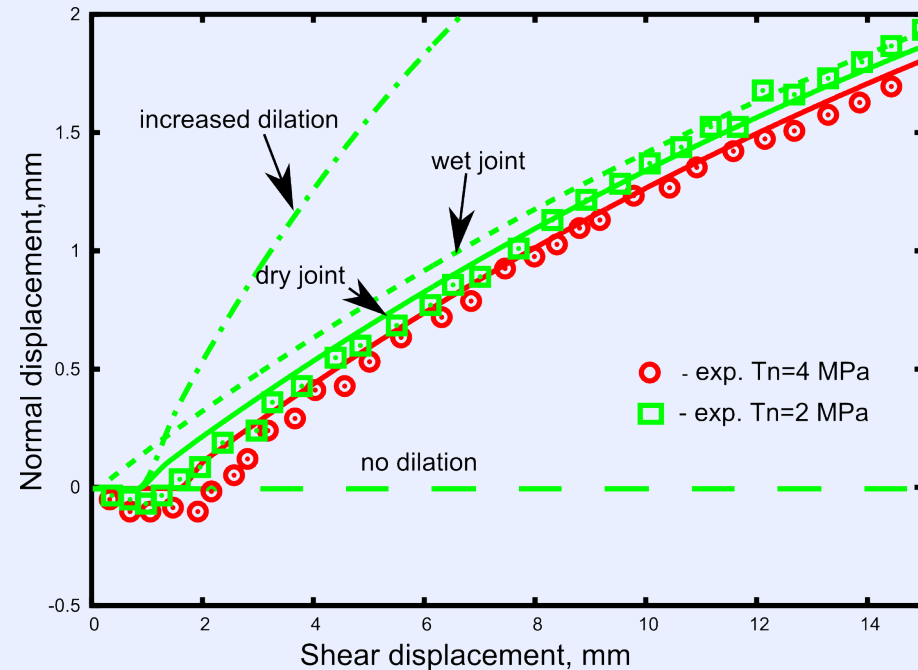
Vorobiev, O.Yu.,(2010),”Discrete and continuum methods for numerical simulations of non-linear wave propagation in discontinuous media”, [International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering](#),83,482-507

# Joint model has been validated for quasi-static conditions

## Shear test simulation



*Joint softening effect*



*Nonlinear dilatancy*

